



July/August/September 2013 Newsletter

Director's Message

The past three months have been busy and that's why this newsletter covers three months. We will provide program updates in this newsletter that will cover much of this work. We are looking towards the future to meet current and future needs of agencies and certified peace officers. The adoption of the 2013-2016 Strategic Plan by the POST Board in September sets the direction and priorities of addressing those needs.

September POST Board Meeting

The Board met in Pueblo for a work session on September 19th and formal Board meeting on September 20th. Thanks go to Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk Taylor and his staff for hosting the meetings and Board dinner.

At the work session, the Board heard a presentation on the Below 100 program from Commander Karl Smalley of Adams County Sheriff's Office. (Note: The mission of Below 100 is to reduce officer deaths across the United States to below 100, a level not seen since 1944. The Board voted to support the program and requested that POST staff present a training plan at the next Board meeting.

The Board engaged in a strategic planning process, identifying issues that need to be addressed over the next three years. Priorities were identified and the Board suggested strategies and processes to deal with the issues. A breakdown of the strategic plan will follow.

At the Board meeting on September 20th, one item that the Board discussed was the academy firearms program. This followed a presentation from Pueblo Chief of

Police Luis Velez at the work session on the firearms qualification score and remediation. The Board also heard from Firearms Committee SME Chair Ed Kafel from El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The Board subsequently requested that the SME Committee meet to discuss the firearms qualification score, remediation, targets, and videotape the current course of fire to show the Board. All items will be presented to the Board at the December meeting.

Strategic Plan

As mentioned, the Board took part in a strategic planning process at the September work session. This involved identifying issues for POST to work on over the next three years. Once the issues were identified and clarified, each Board member prioritized their top five issues. As a result of this process, the following goals comprise the 2013-2016 strategic plan. They are, in order of priority:

1. Increase POST funding to better serve law enforcement training.
2. Develop a mandatory in-service training program.
3. Identify different levels for reserve officers, appropriate training for each level, reserve academy instructor qualifications and in-service training requirements for reserves.
4. Increase POST's ability to assist small agencies with priority training.
5. Develop a standardized lesson plan for the Basic Academy.

Strategies were identified and outlined for each goal. Please go to the [POST website](#) to see the complete plan.

Certification Updates

There has been an improvement in receiving POST Form 6 over the past few months. *Agencies, by statute, must submit a Form 6 within 15 days of any appointment or separation of a peace officer/reserve officer.*

On the POST website, there is a new [Form 6](#) which includes a dropdown menu with the codes for C.R.S Authority for Appointment. Agencies are reminded to use the correct appointment code for your new hires.

Out-of-state provisional applicants must have been fully certified in their originating state for three years and have worked at least one of those three years for one agency. In order to begin working as a POST-certified officer, officers *must* have a letter from POST's Compliance Officer Tom Mullen. Upon being hired, a Form 6 appointing them as a provisional officer must be completed and sent to POST. Upon obtaining Colorado certification following completion of the skills test-out and certification test, a new Form 6 appointing them as a certified officer must be completed and sent to POST.

The new [schedule for 2014 certification tests](#) and skills test-outs is on the POST website.

As of July 1, 2013, we are no longer issuing POST ID (PID) cards. POST will still be using the numbers for identification and tracking purposes.

Reserve and Refresher Academy Changes

At the September POST Board meeting, the Curriculum SME Committee presented revised Reserve and Refresher Academic Training Program. The Refresher Program was increased by eight hours and now includes arrest control and the Reserve Program was increased by nine hours. The next project for the Curriculum Committee is revising the Basic Academic Training Program as part of the strategic plan adopted by the Board. Changes to all programs will be on the POST website after Board approval.

Legislative Training Mandates

The Elder Abuse curriculum is near completion; it will likely be an eight (8) hour course. This is a new and unique course, so it's not expected that many peace officers will be grandfathered by prior equivalent training. As a reminder, on and after January 1, 2015, each county sheriff and each municipal law enforcement agency of the state shall employ at least one peace officer who has successfully completed the training curriculum. But ALL peace officers from these agencies will be mandatory reporters, so part of the training will give tools to the attendees to train other agency members.

The School Resource Officer (SRO) curriculum is also nearly completed. This training has the same attendance requirement as the Elder Abuse training. It's expected that there will be opportunities to be grandfathered in with equivalent training, such as the Corbin or NASRO 40 hour training course. School safety is the top priority for this training.

Peace Officer Training Program (Training Grants)

For this fiscal year, \$2.2 million dollars were awarded to the training regions and presenters. While many training courses have been funded, these grant funds can also be used to purchase training equipment or facilities. For example, the San Luis Valley region has purchased a firearms range. The Central Mountain Training Foundation was awarded funds to purchase a use-of-force simulator. These purchases will have benefits for several years and agencies are encouraged to work with their regions for purchasing equipment or facilities for regional use.

Interactive Database

POST has been looking at purchasing a database that would allow for agencies to submit training and other information over a secured connection. POST is reviewing several proposals from vendors. It's anticipated that a vendor will be selected by November. More information will be sent when a selection is made.

Sunrise Review

Groups seeking peace officer status are required to go through the Sunrise Review process. The process, following an application outlined in Rule 22, calls for a POST Board subcommittee to review the application and submit a recommendation to the POST Board. The Board reviews the report from the subcommittee and makes a recommendation to the Judiciary Committees of the Colorado House of Representatives and Senate.

This year, two groups with the Colorado Department of Revenue submitted applications: The Criminal Tax Enforcement Section Special Agents and Motor Vehicle Investigations Unit. Both groups made presentations to the Sunrise Review Subcommittee on July 26, 2013. The Subcommittee voted to recommend to the POST Board that both groups be approved for consideration. This

recommendation was approved by the POST Board on September 20th. Each group will need to seek a bill sponsor to get peace officer authority into law.

Next POST Board Meeting:

December 6, 2013, 10:00 am.

Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center

1300 Broadway First Floor Conference Room (TBD)

Denver

SME Committees meet at 8 am.